Weekly National Intelligencer

BY GALES & SEATON. JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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OUR WESTERN NAVY.

We recorded a few days ago the fact that DAVID D. PORTER, commanding the naval forces of the United States on the waters of the Mississippi, had been promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral, in recognition of his valuable and efficient services in conducting our naval operations in that part of the country.

It has been generally remarked that, in the recent speeches delivered by our civil and military authorities in Washington, in reply to the congratulatory visit paid to them by a portion of the people of this city, no reference was made by any speaker, in the felicitations expressed on the fall of Vicksburg, to the part which the navy had taken in bringing about this great military and political event. The omission was evidently accidental, but it has none the less served, by its singularity, to create general remark, and thus to demonstrate, in the most striking way, the popular sense of the obligations believed to be due to this favorite arm of the public service, in view of the multiform and successful operations which it has prosecuted in the present war, sometimes on an independent footing, and sometimes in conjunction with the army, which, on so many signal oceapture of New Orleans. What it has done in concert with the army may be seen in such events as the timely interposition of the gunboats to shelter the defeated forces of Gen. Grant at the close of the first day of the battle of Shilob, or in the succor and protection afforded to the army of Gen. McClellan after its repu'se from before Richmond to the banks of the James. The communications of all our forces operating on the Mississippi, or on other lines of advance, owe their security, we need not say, to the efficiency of the navy, witha country so extensive and so difficult of travel by large armies on overland routes.

and control the Mississippi river, deserve to be considered in other than their mere military aspects. The part already performed by the navy in opening this "great inland sea," and the part it must perform in keeping it unobstructed, may be said then the Confederate Secretary of War, Col. W. to insure for this branch of the national defence B. Wood, commanding a Confederate regiment in the sympathy and support of a population who East Tennessee, under date of November 20, 1861, have heretofore felt that the navy was created and sustained for the protection of the mercantile and commercial classes, mainly resident in the scabord | bridges," and that "the whole country was in a States, rather than of the agricultural community state of rebellion" against the Richmond Governinhabiting the Mississippi valley. This feeling can no longer have any place under the existing relations of the country. The considerations of political economy which must give importance to the operations of our fleets on the Mississippi river so long as this war endures, will appear from the following statements made by Attorney General BATES, in a public address delivered in Iron Works of Mr. J. B. Eads at Carondelet. Mr.

"I have conversed not only with statesmen, but with some of the ablest and best of our naval commanders, with reference to the building and fitting of gunboats for the Mississippi river. The idea of a gunboat on the waters of the Mississippi was a novelty; some ridiculed it; but som few of the naval officers sincerely believed in the possi-bility of the thing, and saw in it, as clearly as sunlight could have revealed the fact, an all powerful, all-conquer-ing instrument for crushing the rebellion and for the sup-port of the institutions of our forefathers.

This yard, established for building gunboats, was ar experiment, hazardous alike to the treasury of the nation and to the reputation for skill and knowledge of the excel-lent and able man involved in it, was taken first of all by my friend, James B. Eads, under a contract with Govern-ment to build seven steamers, and under the command of that noble and glorious man, whom I might well be proud to call my friend, but who has left us, and is gone to re-ceive the rich reward that awaited him—who has entered into blessed communion with the spirits of the just made perfect. Admiral Foote is dead, but he still lives in the perfect. Admiral Foote is dead, but he still lives in the hearts of his countrymen. He who possessed in his own person more of the excellences of human nature than I renember ever to have seen in any one man; beloved by all his subordinates, from the first officer down to the lowest sailor, beloved and mourned by all outsiders, and feared only by the enemies of his country. Under his command it was that the efficacy and power of these instruments of war, turned out some from this yard and some from others, turged the tide of battle in this whole war.

"What would have been your condition upon the Ohio but for the gunboats of the Mississippi? What would have taken Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, and Columbus? Without them our armies would have been inefficient, and the enemy this day would have domineered over the whole course of the Mississippi, from the Ohio to the Gulf. But for the gunboats we should have had a hard struggle, last-ing perhaps for years, before we could have gained the ground we now occupy in that direction, because the lower Mississippi is but the channel towards which the waters above the dividing line of the Ohio will force their way t the ocean as freely as the muddy waters of the Mississ force their way into the Gulf. Observe a few facts con-nected with it: If you draw a line cast and west through the mouth of the Ohio river, there are nine millions of free white people who drink the waters above that line; below that line, in the valley of the Mississippi proper, there is not one million of free white people. I make an assertion which I shall not stop to prove now, but the published statistics. lished statistics of Cincinnati will prove it, that any day of the year there are three times as much of American property after upon the Mississippi as upon the whole Atlantic ocean. I mention this to show you, the workmen of this yard especially, how gloriously, how admirably, and efficiently your labors redound to the restoration and preservation of law and order in your country."

The Montreal Advertiser, after announcing Mr. Vallan digham's arrival at Halifax, states that he will soon go to Niagara Falls, where he will remain for the present, taking care to keep on the Cauada side.

MILITARY REPRISALS.

We yesterday spread before our readers the papers and correspondence explanatory of the objects proposed to himself by Gen. Jefferson Davis in authorizing Mr. Alexander H. Stephens to proceed to this city. The projected mission had for its ostensible purpose the opening of negotiations on three points.

Firstly, to "establish the cartel for the exchange of prisoners on such a basis as to avoid the constant difficulties and complaints which arise," and to prevent for the future what Gen. Davis alleges to be the "unfair couduct" of the Federal authorities ' in evading the delivery of the prisoners who fall into their hands, in retarding it by sending them on circuitous routes, and by detaining them, sometimes for months, in camps and in prisons, and in persisting in taking captive non-combatante." Secondly, to protest against the "unheard of conduct of the Federal officers in driving from their homes entire mmunities of women and children, as well as of men. whom they find in districts occupied by their troops, for no other reason than because the unfortunates are faithful to the allegiance due to their State and refuse to take an oath of fidelity to their enemies "

Thirdly, to threaten retaliatory measures because of the a leged "putting to death of unarmed prisoners" and because of "the recent executions of officers of the Conederate army in Kentucky, for the sole cause that they were engaged in recruiting service in a State which is claimed as one of the Confederate States."

The first of these grounds of complaint, if there be any, have been, we presume, sufficiently removed by the recent supplementary arrangements made to regulate the exchange of prisoners of war.

In regard to the second ground of reclamationthe banishment of "entire communities of women and children from their homes"-which Gen. Davis calls "the unheard of conduct of the Federal officers" in some cases, we have only to say that if any such rigorous and cruel measures have been executed with the generality he ascribes to them we are not apprized of the fact. If, however, Gen. Davis has not before heard of any such barbarities in casions, it has saved from impending disaster, if the progress of war among civilized nations, it may that if this was the only offence alleged and proved not destruction. What the navy has done by its | be because he has not given due attention to the offiunaided efforts may be read to advantage in the cial papers of his own military subordinates. We quite concur with him in deprecating such visitations of military severity on the heads of unarmed women, children, and old men; for we are far from holding that that military regimen which is the most violent and relentless in its processes is therefore the most effective. As soon as rigor transcends the bounds of military justice, it becomes, by the recoil it produces, an element of ing" for the insurgent service in Loyal States to weakness rather than strength.

But we have to regret that Gen. Jefferson Davis should be so late in announcing the humane maxout whose aid it would have been greatly more ims by which he hopes to see the present war condifficult, if not wholly impracticable, to penetrate ducted. When the devoted Union men of East Tennessee were hunted down by his soldiery, and, for acts of partisan warfare, were ordered to be The proportions already assumed by our Navy remorselessly hanged by his Secretary of War, not executed, or even put on trial, so far as we in the West, and which are destined to remain un- while inoffensive women and children, for no other impaired as long as it shall be necessary to guard crime than that of having husbands or fathers in exile from the State for opinion's sake, were ordered to abandon their homes, we heard nothing from him in denunciation of such "barbarity."

In an official letter to the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, had recently "destroyed no less than five railroad ment. He added that he had felt it his duty to place Knoxville under martial law because "there was a large majority of the people sympathizing with the enemy and communicating with them."

In a second official letter, under date of November 20, 1861, he wrote that "the rebellion in East Tennessee had been put down in some of the counties," and that a large number of "Union men' Missouri on the Fourth of July, on the occasion of had been taken prisoners. He then proceeded to the launching of the gunboat Winnebago from the ask what disposition should be made of them, and gave his own views on the subject as follows:

> "I have been here at this station for three months, half the time in command of this post, and I had a good oppor tunity of learning the feeling pervading this country. It is hostile to the Confederate Government. They will take the oath of allegiance with no intention to observe it. They are the followers and slaves of Johnson and Maynard, and never intend to be otherwise. When arrested become very submissive, and declare they are for peace and not supporters of the Lincoln Govern-ment, but yet claim to be Union men. At one time, while our forces were at Knoxville, they gave it out that a grea change had taken place in East Tennessee, and that the people were becoming loyal. At the withdrawal of the army from here to the Gap, and the first intimation of the approach of the Lincoln army, they were in arms, and scarcely a man but was ready to join it and make war upon us. The prisoners we have all tell us that they had every assurance that the enemy was already in the State, and would join them in a few days. I have requested at east that the prisoners I have taken be held, if not as traitors, as prisoners of war. To release them is ruinous To convict them before a court is next to impossibility. But if they are kept in prison for six months it will have a good effect. The bridge-burners and spies ought to be

It was in reply to this writer that the Hon. Judah P. Benjamin, then Mr. Davis's Secretary of War, wrote as follows:

"WAR DEPARTMENT,

"SIR: Your report of the 20th instant is received, and now proceed to give you the desired instructions in relation to the prisoners taken by you among the traitors of "First. All such as can be identified in having been cu

gaged in bridge burning are to be tried summarily by drum-head court-martial, and, if found guilty, executed on the spot by hanging. It would be well to leave their bodies hanging in the vicinity of the burnt bridges.

"Second. All such as have not been so engaged are to be treated as prisoners of war, and sent with an armed guard to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, there to be kept imprisoned t the depot selected by the Government for prisoners of

Whenever you can discover that arms are concentrated by these traitors, you will send out detachments, search for and seize the arms. In no case is one of the men known to have been up in arms against the Government to be released on any pledge or oath of allegiance. The time for such measures is past. They are to be held as prisoners of war, and held in jail till the end of the war. Such as come in voluntarily, take the oath of allegiance, and surrender their arms, are alone to be treated with

eniency.
"Your vigilant execution of these orders is earnestly

"P. S .- Judge Patterson, Col. Pickens, and other ring

leaders of the same class, must be sent at once to Tuscaoosa to lail as prisoners of war

Nor was any lenity shown in East Tennessee to he women and children of such Union men as had fled the State. In a proclamation addressed "to the disaffected people of East Tennessee" by Col. W. M. Churchwell, Provost Marshal at Knoxville, it is ordered, under date of April 23, 1862, that all refugees who fail to return to their homes and accert the amnesty affered on condition of "laying lown their arms and acting as loyal citizens," shall have their wives and children sent to their care in Kertucky, or beyond the Confederate State lines, at their own expense." It is added that the families of all males who shall leave after the date of this proclamation " will be sent immediately after them. The women and children must be taken care of by husbands and fathers, either in East Tennessee or in the Lincoln Government." Such were the "tender mercies" of the Confeder te military authorities, and such their respect for the right of domicil of inoffensive women and children who had husbands or fathers in exile for their loyalty to the read the history of the siege; and especially will National Government.

In the face of such an exhibition we submit that Gen. Davis should make some public recantation of claimed as still one of the United States, but is also his past policy before he proceeds to arraign the Federal authorities on the charge of "inhumani- appointment to ty." For the credit of the nation it is to be boped that neither party to this contest will permit it to degenerate into "a violent and remorseless revolution ry struggle."

In regard to the third of Gen. Davis's cominvolved to express any opinion. If unarmed prisoners have been put to death by our military authorities we are not aware of the time or place where such transactions have occurred. The cireumstances attending the execution of Confederate officers for the alleged offence of recruiting in Kentucky are not known to us, but we are free to say against them, we should regard their execution as a deplorable military error. That Gen. Burnside, under whose administration these executions are said to have occurred, would wittingly commit a military crime, will be believed by none who know him. We believe it will be found that other charges were alleged and substantiated against these officers. It is well known to us that our military authorities be punishable with death. We recall the case of Capt. Wm. Clark, of the Thirty-seventh Virginia Regiment, who, with a number of Maryland "recruits," was arrested in the month of August last by a squad of United States cavalry in St. Mary's county. The whole party were lodged in the Old tract: Capitol as prisoners of war, but Capt. Clark was ever heard.

sional excesses, committed by imprudent or reckless officers on one side or the other, we shall hope that neither party to this war will deem upon the field, with no corresponding accessi it necessary to proceed to the dread extremity of invoking the lex talionis, whose cruel blows fall on and imbecility not to put forth the most strenuous exertions to guard against it. We can only pray that those to my's wounded. Their sharpshooters fired on them. Gen the heads not of the guilty but the innocent If this fountain of blood be once unsealed, who can to the crisis. complained that the "Union men" in that quarter foresee the nameless horrors to which it may lead?

THE GOLD PRODUCT OF THE WORLD.

In the July number of the Bankers' Magazine it is stated that from reliable data it appears that the production of gold and silver throughout the world has quadrupled since the first discovery of gold in California, (1848-'9.) The production annually, in the years 1846-1848, was estimated at sixty-one millions of dollars, of which Russia and Mexico were the principal sources. The product for the current year is estimated at over two hundred and seventy millions.

A careful scrutiny of the whole subject, as to and South America produce about \$96,350,000 in gold and \$47,650,000 in silver; a total of \$144,000,000. Australia, Russia, and other portions of the world produce annually \$108,230,000 in gold. and \$19,345,000 in silver; a total of \$127,575,000. The annual average of the "gold crop" of California is set down at \$60,000,000.

The effect of this accumulation of gold is thus

stated by the reviewer : The vast accumulations of gold of the last fourteen cars enure largely to the benefit of the United States and Great Britain, by giving an impulse to commerce and to manufactures. Remote nations are indirectly benefitted because the course of trade is such that gold will flow to those countries where labor is cheapest, and where the bullion and coin are the most valued, or realize the largest results. This is fully demonstrated in the fact that; not withstanding the additional accumulations of the precious metals within the past fourteen years, amounting to over one thousand millions of dollars, there is really but little more on hand in the United States and Western than in 1850-1853. In the year 1851 the Bank of France held four hundred and eighty-six millions of france in ver and eighty-two millions in gold; whereas now, after a period of twelve years, it holds three hundred and minety-four millions in both metals. In the year 1852 the Bank of England held £22,000,000 in bullion and coin, which was in fact, for the country at large—the joint stock banks, country banks, and private bankers maintaining but small specie reserves. This year the bullion and coin of the Bank of England ranges from 144 to 154 millions sterling, and the Scotch and Irish banks £4,270,000, from which we leduce the following comparative table :

Bank of England, 1852 \$110,000,000 \$75,000,000 Totals.....\$307,000,000 \$273,000,000

LEGAL DECISION ON THE CONSCRIPT LAW. At New York, on Tuesday afternoon, Judge McCunn decided the case of William L. Stephens, an eurolling officer, who arrested Henry Biesel for refusing to give his name when asked, and locked him up in the Park Bar-racks. The Judge held that this arrest was without due process of law, as it was no offence to refuse to give a same to the enrolling officers under the act of Congress. Besides this, the United States Constitution provides only for the standing army and navy, and the militia forces of the States, and as the conscription law does not make the force it creates a part either of the standing army or the militia force, it is unconstitutional, since the President is clearly limited to the employment of a standing army and the militia and volunteer forces of the respective mustered into the United States service. Stephe held to bail in five thousand dollars for the ar-Stephens was

GEN. BANKS.

It was not definitely known when the reduction of Port Hudson was first announced whether that great event, second in importance only to the fall of Vicksburg, was accomplished by the aid of cooperative forces from the urmy of then Grant, or whether it was affected by Gen Banks' army alone It is now known that the latter was the case, and the success therefore reflects only the more honor on a General who, throughout the whole war, has city, and who at all times and under all circumstances has manifested an absence of self-seeking in his simple devotion to duty. The Boston Daily signal schievement :

"No achievement of the war is more deserving of honor has applied himself to his object, undaunted by the hardships and losses of a summer campaign in that latitude or by the difficulties of besieging an elaborately fortified and naturally strong position, will be admired by all who

Fort Wegner. held in grateful remembrance by those who consider the painful anxiety which has been felt by the public for many weeks as to the final issue of the enterprise.

"This most honorable achievement Banks in a position far superior to the disparagement and the sometimes open attacks of which he has been the object. The prejudices and jealousies connected with his and fifty in killed, wounded, and prisoners. his present command, which have caused many a sneer at his peculiar qualities, so strongly in con-trast with those of his predecessor, will now cease. The great test of success, which is that of which most men are fond, has settled the question as to his capacity and the wisdom of his appointment. We may be permitted to add that we trust it will nowhere be forgotten that the General who has thus effected that which is the comple nent of Grant's work, is a Massachusetts General-and plaints, we are not sufficiently apprized of the facts that the brave men who under his command endured such toils and privations, surmounted such obstacles and con that deadly trial of strength and patience, to which Vicksburg gives us our only parallel, were chiefly made up of men from the seaboard States—the brothers of the victors of Gettysburg—among whom New England counts many thousands of her sons."

REBEL DISASTERS ACKNOWLEDGED.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 14th instant, in an editorial, says :

"The fall of Vicksburg, the retreat of Bragg, the repulse of Lee, and the advance on Charleston are all serious disasters, the most serious that have attended our

The defeat of Johnston by Sherman had not been heard from at that time. The attack on Charleston, it will be observed, is regarded as a disaster in advance.

Referring to the defeat of Gen. Lee, the Richmond Whig of the 9th instant says:

"The intelligence from Gen Lee falls short of the pro is well known to us that our military authorities miss of the despatches published yesterday, and will prove have not heretofore held the offence of "recruiting" for the incurrent service in Lavel States to the public. Superadded to the calamity at Vicksburg, it casts a sombre shadow over our affairs; but we must constantly bear in mind that it is in adversity that true greatness is revealed in its noblest attributes; and we must resoive that, come what may, the cause shall never go down, nor lack courageous hearts or stout arms enough to bear i

> The Whig of the same date has several articles on the fall of Vicksburg, from which we make the following ex-

"What is most to be feared as the immediate result of the fall of Vicksburg is the conversion of the great army under Grant from a stationary into a moving force. From its organization almost it has been confined to the work of taking that city. It is now free to operate elsewhere.

This is the cyll caning which the Towarman of the city and have killed several soldiers and citizens. There has been no real engagement. Our troops are in excellent spirits, and if the enemy should make a general attack it is certain that success will follow in our This is the evil against which the Govern ed to make the most energetic preparation. It is not difficult to imagine in what direction Grant will move, no to estimate the effect of so powerful an army coming This is the danger that presents the most serious grounds for alarm It wo whom the management of affairs is entrusted may be equal

THE DRAFT NOT COUNTERMANDED.

WAR DEPARTMENT. Provost Marshal General's Office, Washington, July 17, 1863. The operations of the draft lately ordered in the Nev

England and Middle States, though, in most instance ompleted or now in progress without opposition, have one or two cities been temporarily interrupted. Provest Marshals are informed that no orders have been

ordered by the Government to the points where the proceedings have been interrupted.

Provest Marshals will be sustained by the military forces of the country in enforcing the draft, in accordance with the laws of the United States, and will proceed to execute the orders heretofore given for draft, as rapidly as shall be sources of this supply, serves to show that North practicable, by aid of the military forces ordered to cooperate with and protect them.

JAMES B. FRY. Provost Marshal General

THE ADVANCE OF GEN. ROSECRANS.

The capture of Chattanooga by Gen. Rosecrans is a matter which has attracted very little attention, yet it is almost as important an announcement as the surrender of Vicksburg. The latter gave us the Mississippi, but Chattanooga nois; and Lieut. Abernathy, of the Third Iowa. is the key to the whole internal railway system of the South. East Tennessee now becomes ours as a matter of course, and the mountain region which splits the South like a wedge passes naturally into our control. Chattanooga, in its way, means as much as Vicksburg .- World.

The rebel newspapers in Richmond seem to be jus awakening to a realizing sense of the danger which threat-ens them in Alabama by Rosecrans' advance. They have been deluded time and again with the notion that Bragg was gathering all his forces to annihilate Rosecrans, while in reality his army was diminished to help Johnston and Ro ecrans' advance towards Chattanooga has, however, opened the eyes of the Richmond journalists to the real significance of Bragg's movements, and Instead of an advance, they see h m in full flight before Rosecrans, his army dropping off rapidly in its flight. The Richm Whig deplores grievously this backward movement at a time when Middle Tennessee is ready to yield its crops to the rebel gatherers, and it fears greatly that Rosecrans will be induced to penetrate into Alabama, which it admits would be a serious offset to "Lee's success in the Nor h Whatever may be Lee's success in the North-his present position does not promise much in that way—the advance of Rosecrans into Alabama seems to be a fixed fact. He has already driven Bragg entirely out of Tennessee, and will no doubt keep him on the move by following him The necessity of the rebels dividing their forces on the ap proach of the various Union armies has not only betraye their weakness, but it has exposed their whole territory to

DEATH OF MACREADY, THE TRAGEDIAN.

The telegraphic news by the Africa announces in a single line the death of William Charles Macready, the eminent English tragedian. No particulars are given of the time or place of his death. He was born in London in 1793. His first theatrical engagement was at the Birmingham Theatre in June, 1810, where he played Romeo. His first appearance in London was at Covent Garden in September, 1816, when he played Orestes in Phillips's tragedy of "The Distressed Mother." In 1850-'51 he performed a series of farewell engagements in England, and on the 26th of February, 1851, took his final leave of the stage at Drury Lane. He has since lived in retirement down to the period of his death, at the advanced age of seventy years.

THE ATTACK ON CHARLESTON.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The following despatch from Gen Gilmore was received at the Headquarters of the Army yesterday:

Headquarters Department of the South. In the Field, Morris Island, S. C. July 12th, 1863. Major Gen. H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

SIR: I have the honor to report that at five o'clock of the morning of the 10th instant I made an attack upon the enemy's fortified position on the south end of Morris Island, and, after an engagement of three hours and a been characterized by a modesty equal to his capa- quarter, captured all his strongholds upon that part of the island, and pushed forward my infantry to within six hundred yards of Fort Wagner. We now hold all the island except about one mile or

the north end, which includes Fort Wagner and a battery Advertiser comments very just y as follows on this on Cummings' Point, mounting at the present time fourteen or fifteen heavy guns in the aggregate.

The assaulting co'uma was gallantly led by Brig. Gen. as well for its difficulties as its importance, than that which is now inseparably connected with the name of Gen. Banks. The tenacious perseverance with which he miral Dahleren, which entered the main channel abreast miral Dahlgren, which entered the main channel abreast of Morris Island soon after our batteries opened. The

> fort was made to carry Fort Wagner by assault. The parapet was gained, but the supports recoiled under the fire to which they were exposed and could not be got up. Our loss in both actions will not vary much from one hundred

We have taken eleven pieces of heavy ordnance and t large quantity of camp equipage.

The enemy's loss in killed, wounded and missing will not fall short of two hundred

Q. A. GILMORE, Brig. Gen. Commanding.

THE SIEGE OF JACKSON, (MISS.)

REBEL ACCOUNTS

The last Richmond papers received contain the annexed telegraphic despatches from Jackson, Mississippi. They contain the latest news of the operations of our arm gainst that place

JACKSON, JULY 10 .- Gen. Johnston has this morning ssued the following battle order to his troops, which was read along the whole line amid deafening shouts from our HEADQUARTERS ON THE FIELD, JULY 9.

Fellow-Soldiers: An insolent foe, flushed with hope from his success at Vicksburg, confronts you, threatening the peo-ple whose homes and liberty you are here to defend with ple whose homes and liberty you are here to delend with plunder and conquest. Their guns may even now be heard at intervals as you advance. This enemy is at once the mission and duty of you brave men to chastise and expel from the soil of Mississippi. The Commanding General confidently relies on you to su-tain his pledge on which he makes an advance. He will be with you even unto the end. The vice of straggling he begs you to shun and frown upon. If needs be it will be checked by even the most summary remedies. The telegraph has already announced a glorious victory over the foe, won by our noble comrades of the Virginia army on Fed-eral soil. May he not with redoubled hope count on you, while defending your firesides and household gods, to emulate the proud example of your brothers in the East? The country expects in this great crisis of its destiny that every man will do his duty.

JACKSON, JULY 10 .- The ball has opened: the fight has commenced by skirmishing heavily on Clinton road, with musketry and artillery. The enemy's shells are beginning to fall thick on the northern part of the city; several persons have been killed and wounded. Gen. Johnston orders returns he is to take command of Natchez. all pillagers to be shot; a guard will shoot them wherever found. The fight has begun; our batteries opened on them finely. The enemy are evidently in heavy force. Heavy

JACKSON, JULY 12 .- The conduct of Cobb's Kentucky battery and the Washington artiflery, in the affair of this morning, are spoken of in highly complimentary terms by the Commanding General; also, Lovell's Florida brigade. The banners captured belonged to the Twenty-eighth Forty-first, and Fifty-third Illinois Regiments. then ordered the corps to the rear. The Yankee wound ed and dead are still lying in front of our works. Their loes in the charge was fully one thousand. Col. Harry Maury, of the Thirty-second Alabama, was severely wound-A Yankee colonel, two majors, and a number of offi-

JACKSON, JULY 13 .- It rained hard here last night, and sition, which are plainly visible from the State Ho Our troops are much elated at their success yesterday Nothing of importance has transpired to-day.

JACKSON, JULY 14.-No change in the situation issued countermanding the draft. Adequate force has been affairs since yesterday. Lieut. Gen. Pemberton and staff ordered by the Government to the points where the prosays that they met an escort accompanying the body Gen. Osterhaus to Vicksburg. They stated that Gen Osterhaus was killed by a cannon ball on the 12th instant Heavy skirmishing still continues. Several houses were demolished yesterday by the enemy's shells.

JACKSON, JULY 14 .- Gen. Johnston sent a flag of truck to day to Gen. Grant, asking permission to bury the Yan kee dead in front of our works. Gen. Grant asked per mission to send assistance, in order that the dead migh be recognised, which was refused. The terms originally proposed were then agreed to. Our troops have been engaged all the afternoon burying the dead Yankees. The exact number is not yet ascertained. A Yankee officer in charge of the flag admits a loss of four or five hundred.
Among their killed and wounded are Col. Earl, Lieut.
Col. Long, and Capt. Hall, of the Forty-first Illinois;
Lieuts. S. Smith and McMasters, of the Fifty-third Illithe officers on our side are Major Lamb, of the Twenty ninth Georgia, killed; Lieuts. C. C. Brader, of the Nin teenth Louisians, T. J. Rust, of the Fourth Florids, and A. B. James, of the Cobb battery, wounded. specified in the truce passed before the burial of the dead was finished.

JACKSON, JULY 15 -Another day has passed without any new developments. The enemy has been firing incor-santly, and has been shelling the city all the evening. Another division of Burnside's command reached Grant

JACKSON, JULY 16 .- The enemy kept up a heavy shell ing last night. One shell passed through Gen. Johnston's quarters without injuring any one Grant was reinforced pesterday evening by one division of Burnside's command. We buried one hundred and fifty-three of the enemy yes-terday. There is still no prospect of a general engage-ment, but beavy artillery and infantry skirmishing continues destroyed by the enemy's shells yesterday. Not a gun has been fired by the enemy's shells yesterday. Not a gun has been fired by the enemy this morning. Various conjectures indulged in regard to their silence, but well informed persons think they are trying to footh. sons think they are trying to flank us on our right, as their cavalry made an attempt to cross four miles above last night. Capt. Ferguson, of the South Carolina battery, was ortally wounded by the enemy's sharpshooters yesterday. JACKSON, JULY 16 .- The enemy made a heavy demostration on our right and centre this afternoon, but Wa er's and Loring's divisions repulsed them handsomely. The ertillery fire was incessant, and our batteries replied gu for gun. The enemy sought shelter in the woods. Heav reinforcements for Gen. Grant continue to arrive, who a pressed around on our right for the purpose of crossi

Pearl river above and flanking us. The enemy are plaing siege guns on their redoubts. It is supposed that orrow the remainder of Jackson will be burnt.

WHOLESALE DESERTIONS. The Richmond Dispatch of the 18th instant, under the the Fourth Mississippi Cavalry as having disgraced themselves by basely and cowardly deserting their posts at a time when their services were most needed. Among

CAPTURE OF YAZOO CITY, (MISSISSIPPL)

The Secretary of the Navy last night received the

UNITED STATES MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, Flag-ship Black Harek, off Vicksburg, July 14, 1563, Via Cairo, July 21

Hon. GIDEON WELLES, Secretary of the Navy. SIR: Hearing that Gen. Johnston was fortifying Yazoo City with heavy guns, and gathering troops there for the purpose of obtaining supplies for his army from the Yazoo country; also, that the remainder of the enemy's best transports were then showing a possibility of his attempt to escape, Major Gen. Grant and myself determined to send a naval and military expedition up there to capture

The Baron PeKalb, New National, Kenwood, and Signal were dispatched, under command of Lieutenant Commander John G. Walker, with a force of troops numbering five thousand, under Major Gen. Frank J. Herron. Pushing up to the city the Baron DeKalb engaged the

batteries, which were all prepared to receive her, and, finding out their strength, dropped back to notify Gen. Herron, who immediately landed his men, and the army and navy made a combined attack on the enemy's works The rebels soon fled, leaving every thing in our possession, and set fire to four of their finest steamers that ran on the Mississippi river in times past.

The army pursued the enemy, and captured their rearguard of two hundred and sixty men, and at last accounts were taking more prisoners.

Six heavy guns and one vessel, formerly a gunboat, fell nto our hands, and all the munitions of war.

Unfortunately, while the Baron De Kalb was moving slowly along she ran toul of a torpedo, which exploded and sank ber. There was no sign of any thing of the kind to be seen. While she was going down another exploded under her stern. The water is rising fast in the Yazoo, and we can do nothing more than get the guns out of her, and then get her into deep water, where she will be undisturbed until we are able to raise her. The officers and men lost every thing

I have the bonor to be, very respectfully, your obedient DAVID D. PORTER,

Acting Rear Admiral, Commanding Mississippi Squadron.

THE WAR IN MISSISSIPPI.

CAIRO, JULY 20 -Vicksburg advices to the 15th in-

"Yazoo City, which was held by about eight hundred ebels, was captured by Gen. Herron on the 13th. Two hundred and fifty prisoners were captured. The gunboat DeKalb was blown up by a torpedo and sunk in shallow water. She will be raised. No lives lost. The rebelburnt three transports lying above the city. Some eight or ten large steamers have gone up the Yazoo.

"Gen. Logan has been relieved of his command by Gen. Sherman-it is stated for disobedience of orders and prematurely attacking Jackson. He made the attack on the 13th instant, and was repulsed with a less of three hundred killed and wounded Gen. Sherman is besieging Johnston at Jackson, who is supposed to have thirty thousand men. It is said that Johnston cannot escape. "A steamer was loading at Vicksburg with rebel sick

and wounded for Mobile via New Orleans. "A large fleet of transports, convoyed by gunboats. have gone up Red River under Gen. Ransom. When he

"Our forces at Milliken's Bend and Lake Providence

ire reported to be suffering considerably from sickness

IMPORTANT SOUTHERN NEWS.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 16th instant contains a proclamation from Gen. Jefferson Davis calling out, under the Confederate conscription set, all white men betwee the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, to serve in the Confederate army for three years, under penalty of bein punished for desertion in case of disob-ying the call. They are offered the privilege of joining volunteer organizations before the enrollment

The Enquirer, in an editorial article on " military necessity," argues that the only salvation of the Southern Confederacy is in calling out a levy en masse, the application of martial law to the whole country as in a state of siege, the absolute control of all trade (especially in drink) as within military lines, the abolition of substitution, exemption, and foreign protections, and the material colargement is again cloudy this morning. There has been but little of the President's power to revise elections of officers and firing on either side. The enemy have six batteries in poto make appointments in order to get rid of incompetent

THE DANGER TO CHARLESTON. The Enquirer confesses that the landing of the Union forces on Morris Island, in Charleston harbor, and the ommencement of extensive works designed for the reduction of Fort Wagner, indicate that Gen. Gilmore is comnencing a determined siege against that city both by land and water. It then quotes from the Charleston Mercury the following remarks, disclosing apprehensions of that ournal for the safety of Charleston and expressing its opinon as to the proper means of averting the impending caamity to the Confederate cause. The Mercury says:

"It appears to us to be useless to attempt to disguise com ourselves our situation. By whose fault we got into t, it is vain now to inquire. The Yankees baving gotten ossession of the southern half of Morris Island there is out one way to save the city of Charleston, and that is the speedy and unflinehing use of the bayonet. If the fight on Morris Island is to be now a fight by engineering contrivances and cannon merely, the advantage is now with the enemy. With their iron-clads in the water and their men in occupation of the land, it is likely to be a mere question of time. The fall of Fort Wagner ends in the fall of Charleston. Fort Sumter, like Fort Wagner, will then be assailed by land and sea, and the fate of Fort Pulaski will be that of Sumter. Gen. Gilmore was the man who reduced Fort Pulaski.

Charleston must be saved as Richmond was. For six days our soldiers stormed the successive batteries of the enemy, and saved Richmond. The greater part of the soldiers who achieved these triumphs by the bayonet had iever before been in a charge. The Yankees here have as yet few or no formidable works. They have but a few thou and troops. If our soldiers and officers here are not equal to the kind of fighting fought by the army of Virginia and tried by the Yankoes against such works as Fort Wagner and Secessionville, then Charleston falls.

This, it appears to us, is the only course of safety, and e may add, too, for cconamy of lives. Other means may protract the fighting to days and weeks, and postpone the commation of the struggle. No other means, in our opin-cromation of the struggle. No other means, in our opin-cromation of the struggle. We believe it can easily be saved

THE NATIONAL DEST

The following table gives a comparative view of the

debt at dif	ferent perie	ids since the	beginning	of the war:
Fives	Dec. 1861 850,895,092 89,220,856 100,000,000 22,461,742	July, 1862 \$30,000,002 90,620,55 13,974,966 122,330,650 2,830,641 10,881,086 57,746,106 149,660,000	Jan. 1863 \$30,690,002 \$7,705,191 25,050,850 1,39,096,050 3,267,511 110,021,241 80,235,636 214,366,251	June 29, 1883, \$30,483,000 \$7,781,392 182,414,401 139,996,950 776,650 156,835,242 94,070,702 407,854,450
	select Administra	4514.211.371	8721,663,727	\$1,100,912,793

Eleven hundred millions is a large national debt, but

when we state that almost the entire amount has been head of "Shameful," says: "Gen. Jackson advertises in raised among ourselves, without help from abroad, and the Mississippian two hundred and forty-one members of that our great industrial interests are prospering, there is a consciousness of strength and wealth in the fact that it is gratifying to our pride as it is cautionary to nations en The aggregate debt of Eugland is 4,009 millions of dol-

them are eighteen non-commissioned officers and two lieu-them are eighteen non-commissioned officers and two lieu-them are eighteen non-commissioned officers and two lieu-States 1,100 millions. The former is some four times, and "Talk of raining bricks," said Dr. Spooner, in a late shower, as he made the fifth ineffectual attempt to attract a driver, "'tis nothing to halling omnibuses"